Dear Bud,

3/16/78

I've just had a phone call from Blakey. He said he'd been going over your material and found a note indicating I had a tape between Jerry Ray and J.B.Stoner.

I have no such tape.

I'm sure that there is ~~this is the~~ only one Stoner tape I've ever had, of a call he made to me at Jerry's suggestion, That was about 1969. I tried to explain this to Blakey.

I also volunteered a few other facts and comments that he may or may not have preferred I not address.

He says he wants me to talk to him and Everhart. I told him that I had written the committee when Sprague was chief counsel and that my views have not changed, nor has what I will and will not do. He claims to have no knowledge of that but does understand me when I say that I regard myself as still bearing Jimmy an obligation and will not violate it or resolve any conflict of interest except in Jimmy's favor.

He nonetheless wants to talk to me. I said with Jim's agreement and presence and with a tape. He agreed. No ifs or buts.

If Jim agrees, as I believe he will, it will be here. I don't know when.

I also don't know what of my material you gave him. He referred to a note you made. He may have misunderstood it or read into it what was not there or intended.

This raises several questions. One is other such misunderstandings, coming from what I gave you or what you may have noted. If I can see them misinterpreting in this instance I can visualize it as not uncommon. Another is what you gave them that is my work.

You may not recall all if you again did not segregate everything from me, as you were supposed to. We went through that before. We did have such a clear understanding.

At this point neither of us can do anything about anything of this nature, assuming it exists. But I would like to know because those people do not love me and are capable of mischief if I do not say or do what they want. I'm not afraid of that but I am not anxious to engage in any waste of time or emotion.

Among the things I volunteered is that nobody would trust Jerry to be a Raoul, that he could not talk and make a turn while driving a car. And that what Mark says about the spooks planting those stories about the committee is silly - I did it all. I also told him that I do not apply one set of standards to the Warren Commission and a different set to his committee.It did not discourage him. He referred to what he inherited, as though it were his greatest liability and he had turned it all around.

The young fellow on Anderson's staff phoned. I told him he is welcome to access to all I have on the Powell business but that it is irrelevant. He is to call tomorrow about coming Saturday. Blakey and his secrecy- all in private- this kid told me that story is in the Congressional Record. Very unfair to the Powell brothers.

Howard's schedule has changed from what he told Jim. He may be coming up here this weekend or I may be going to see him in DC on Sunday. But if I do go to DC next week I'll let you know so we can lunch.

I still hear from Jerry. Mostly how great and unselfish that religious noble and pure soul Mark Lane is. They've gone to church together at Mark's suggestion. Stoner and Fields were before the committee last week. Jerry is due toward the end of the month.

Sincerely,